

with less cancer, including nutritional food options for families.

Next Generation Choices in turn has formed the Less Cancer Campaign, which has grown to become a worldwide leader in cancer prevention awareness, with over 10,000 members, friends, and fans on Facebook. The reach of the Less Cancer Campaign has been wide; numerous other organizations have followed its lead and collaborated to fan the flame for cancer prevention around the globe. These combined efforts have raised awareness for Less Cancer, not just here in America, but around the world.

The Less Cancer and new Healthy Town campaigns are working to help guide communities and individuals on understanding the importance of making strong choices, and providing information on options and resources available to assist them in making healthy decisions. While most often pointing to options for the consumer, the organization in some rare cases has provided food cards, information for healthy food choices, and even shoes for children who need to get out and move, run and play.

While Mr. Couzens' personal experience inspired his passion to help lessen the grip of cancer on society, he also understood the importance of working with scientists and physicians who have a depth of work in evidenced-based science. Next Generation Choices board of directors includes Ronald B. Herberman, M.D., founding director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, associate vice chancellor for cancer research, Hillman professor of oncology, and professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Dr. Herberman is an internationally recognized tumor immunologist who has made major discoveries in his field and has fostered the application of this information to novel approaches in cancer therapy, diagnosis and prevention. The phenomenon of natural killer, NK, cell-mediated cytotoxicity against tumors was first discovered in Dr. Herberman's laboratory at the National Cancer Institute in the early 1970s. In addition to his pioneering investigation of NK cells, Dr. Herberman has played a leading role in multiple areas of tumor immunology.

Other leaders in science and medicine on the board are Maryann Donovan, Ph.D., the director of the Center for Environmental Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, and Thomas M. Sherman, M.D., a gastroenterologist. The board also includes professionals in industry and business. Greg Lam and John Couzens both contribute from their years in business and nonprofit management. Miles M. O'Brien is a 26-year broadcast news veteran. Based in New York City, he owns a production company that creates, produces, and distributes original content across all media platforms. For nearly 17 years he worked as a correspondent, anchor, and producer for CNN based in Atlanta and New York. At various times he was CNN's science, space, aviation, technology, and environment correspondent. Also on the board is Veronique Pittman, a trustee of The Rainforest Foundation and Round Hill Hotels and Villas, and a partner with Rainforest Native, which imports fair-trade ecological products from the Amazon rain forest. In addition, she sits on the Leadership Council of the Green Schools Alliance and is an Advisory Board member of the Sustainable Acai Project and Global Goods Partners.

Next Generation Choices, Less Cancer, and Healthy Town are closely associated with cancer prevention, but also work to reduce all illnesses associated with human health and the environment. As Mr. Couzens has said, "When communities and individuals work to make healthier choices, great strides toward preventing cancer and other illnesses including heart disease, diabetes, and obesity can be made. By educating people and unifying individuals and programs—transformation will occur for the next generation."

Madam Speaker, the battle against cancer will take the work of individuals, communities, businesses and governments, and we salute the effort of Bill Couzens and Next Generation Choices as they raise awareness on ways we can all be involved in this fight.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MS. KELLY REFFETT'S YEARS OF SERVICE TO ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITIES

#### HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2010*

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Kelly Reffett's years of work in community service and disaster relief and to wish her well as she retires from her role as President of the Illinois Valley Federation of Labor.

Ms. Reffett began her career in 1979 as an operator for Ameritech in Canton, IL. After working for Ameritech for twenty years, Kelly joined the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago as Director of Partner Relations and AFL-CIO Labor Participation. For ten years, Kelly worked to expand preparedness education opportunities to diverse populations, served disaster stricken communities, and broadened partnerships with corporations and community organizations.

In this position, she directed teams of nearly 100 people at 23 locations, providing executive guidance and program assistance to on-site supervisors and Volunteer in Service to America members. She also served as Partner Services Manager/Officer and Labor Liaison on 25 national relief operations including Hurricane Katrina and World Trade Center 9/11 operations. She co-developed the AFL-CIO's 2009 handbook outlining guidelines and policies for volunteer disaster relief operations. These accomplishments are only a small sampling of Kelly's impressive career.

In addition to her national service, Kelly was also selected to serve at the state and county level. Since 2003, Kelly has served as a commissioner on the Illinois State Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service. In 2008, she was appointed to serve on the LaSalle County Board. Shortly thereafter, she was elected to that office.

Throughout her long career, Ms. Reffett has also remained dedicated to the cause of working families. Serving as President of the Illinois Valley Federation of Labor for over two decades, she always put the best interests of Illinois Valley workers first.

Ms. Kelly Reffett has had a long and proud career, one that is not ending as she retires from the presidency of the Illinois Valley Federation of Labor. Having worked with her over

the years, I am sure she will continue to work to improve her community, as she has done over and throughout her long and successful career.

#### CONGRATULATING THE TRANSPORTATION TRADES DEPARTMENT ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2010*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO as this strong voice for transportation workers marks its 20th anniversary.

Transportation is at the core of our daily lives and our economy. From ancient civilization through the present day, the quality of transportation serves as a true measure of a society. How well do people live their daily lives? How quickly and efficiently can people and goods get from one place to another? Does the quality of transportation strengthen or weaken an economy?

As we map the vision for our future, we must keep asking these questions. Are we doing all we can to invest in modern, safe, and efficient transportation? Are the workers in this industry as well-trained, experienced, and prepared as possible? Are they treated with respect and dignity? Are they trusted and empowered? Do their wages and working conditions help—or hurt—the ability to attract and retain good men and women for these jobs?

The work of the Transportation Trades Department (TTD), of the AFL-CIO lies at the heart of these questions. In every major transportation policy debate in Washington over the past 20 years, TTD has been front and center, providing an honest, substantive, and respected voice on behalf of millions of transportation workers. TTD brings their voices to those in public office, helping forge far better policy and decision-making than if the organization did not exist.

TTD has always had the courage and conviction to demand accountability, to make sure that public and private sector transportation leaders are truly placing safety and our national transportation network's true needs ahead of ideology and profit. In an industry—and world—that has been so turbulent in recent years, the value of TTD's vigilant watchdog role is priceless.

As the Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I can count on TTD to bring integrity, intellectual depth, and refreshing clarity to my Committee and the entire Congress. I have long valued TTD as a trusted friend and ally, and its substantive, bipartisan approach has often been helpful in bringing about consensus on important issues.

As my committee has engaged in enacting critical legislation—from the surface transportation bill to the FAA reauthorization bill, from the Coast Guard reauthorization to Amtrak and rail safety reauthorization—TTD has been a comprehensive and credible resource. Its member unions are on the front lines of our transportation network—whether on the ground, in the air or at sea.